

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 01673 031353Z

44

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 ERDA-07 ERDE-00 NRC-07

ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

EB-07 FEAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 /119 W

----- 026753

P R 031313Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3786

AMCONSUL BOMBAY PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 1673

DEPT. PASS OES, NRC, ERDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN PFOR US IN

SUBJECT: ALLEGED RADIOACTIVITY FROM TARAPUR POWER STATION

REF: (A) MADRAS 0186, (B) 72 STATE A-5838, (C),
72 NEW DELHI A-169, (D) 72 NEW DELHI 506

1. TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL IS MADRAS 0186. IT REPORTS ON A
FEBRUARY 1 HINDU STORY FROM WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT SAGAR THAT
THE US SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE IS INVESTIGATING
ALLEGATIONS THAT THE GEC BUILT TARAPUR REACTOR POSES A MAJOR
RADIOACTIVE DANGER TO SURROUNDING AREAS. MAJOR NEW DELHI
NEWSPAPERS HAVE ALSO REPORTED ON THIS.

2. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CHIEF REASONS FOR FREQUENT
BREAKDOWNS AT TARAPUR POWER STATION DURING 1972-73 WERE:

(A) DEFECTIVE FUEL RODS - GENERAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION
(GEC) REPORTED TO THE USAEC ON MAY 24, 1972 (REPAIR
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B) THAT 67 DEFECTIVE FUEL ELEMENTS HAD TO BE REMOVED FROM THE

REACTORS;

(B) DEFECTIVE CORE - AEC CHAIRMAN SETHNA IN MARCH 1972 (REFAIR C) AND ATOMIC POWER AUTHORITY CHAIRMAN J.C. SHAH IN OCTOBER 1972 (REFAIR D) TOLD EMBOFFS THAT THE CORE OF THE TARAPUR REACTORS WAS MISDESIGNED AND THAT THEY WERE DISSATISFIED WITH THE OVERALL SERVICE PROVIDED BY GEC, PARTICULARLY DURING BREAKDOWNS; AND

(C) DEFECTIVE TRANSMISSION LINES - A GOI INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE BLAMED DEFECTIVE TRANSMISSION LINES FOR FREQUENT BREAKDOWNS AT TARAPUR.

3. WE BELIEVE THESE DEFECTS HAVE BEEN REMEDIED AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INDIAN AEC AND GEC HAVE BEEN RESOLVED.

4. THE ALLEGATION THAT RADIOACTIVITY HAS FOUND ITS WAY TO TARAPUR SURROUNDINGS AND HAS AFFECTED FISHING IS NEW. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THAT BUT ARE ASKING CONGEN BOMBAY FOR CLAIRIFICATION. PLEASE NOTE THAT SHAH HAS ALREADY REFUTED THE ALLEGATIONS THAT RADIOACTIVITY HAS SPREAD TO SURROUNDING AREAS OF TARAPUR.

5. CAN DEPARTMENT PROVIDE BACKGROUND ON SAGAR'S STORY?

SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, TARAPUR, FALLOUT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE01673
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: TGEN, PFOR, US, IN, GENERAL ELECTRIC
To: STATE
BOMBAY
Type: TE
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